

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**Appl. No.:** : 10/822,272 **Confirmation No.** 2174  
**Applicant:** : D'Elena, et. al.  
**Filed:** : April 8, 2004  
**Group Art Unit:** : 4143  
**Examiner:** : Fleischer, Mark A.  
**Docket No.** : END920040009US1  
**Customer No.** : 40412

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)**

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action having a mailing date of September 2, 2008, with a three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 2, 2008, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and reexamination of the present application in light of the following remarks and amendments made in this Response for Continued Examination (RCE):

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims beginning on page 2.  
**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 12.